



CARTER COURIER

MAY 30, 2006

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 18

LETTER FROM THE CONGRESSMAN

Dear Friends,

Last week, Congress continued work to promote fiscal discipline, making America's borders more secure, and creating American jobs to help increase America's energy supply. The House considered additional appropriations bills that hold the line on spending while also funding important national priorities.

I was pleased to spend Memorial Day honoring our nation's troops at ceremonies in Harker Heights and Round Rock. I want to again thank the men and women who are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for the rights of all Americans.

Now that the Senate has passed its border security and immigration legislation, I will continue to hold strong to the House approach on this issue. As I said on the House Floor last week, "You have got to stop the damage that is there right now today before you move on to the damage that may be coming down the road or to work on other issues to determine the solution. I would say the bleeding is at the border. We have got to stop the bleeding."

Until next week,

PROTECTING OUR VETERANS' IDENTITY

On May 22nd, it was discovered that the personal information of nearly 26.5 million veterans was stolen from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The information which included names, birth dates, and Social Security numbers for millions of our nation's veterans who have retired since 1972 was stolen from the home of a career data analyst who was not authorized to take the information from the workplace.

Authorities at the FBI and VA who are conducting a full-scale investigation into this matter believe it is unlikely the perpetrators targeted the personal data or are aware they possess this sensitive information. In fact, authorities have not yet detected any suspicious activity connected with the lost data. While this is great news for our nation's veterans, this incident still puts our veterans at risk of having their identities stolen.

To ensure that our veterans are appropriately protected and that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs is developing the necessary internal controls to prevent future occurrences of this nature, I have cosponsored the Veterans Identity Protection Act. The bill will require the Veterans Administration to provide a free credit report every three months over a one year time frame, and also provide one year of free credit monitoring to every Veteran whose personal information is compromised.

CONTENTS

VA Information
1-2

House ANWR Bill
2

*Drug Control at Border,
Border Security News*
2

Memorial Day
3

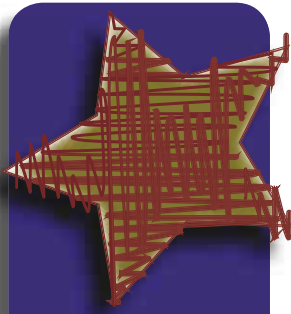
Tarleton State Program
3

Outreach Hours
3

Kid's Page
4

Coloring Page
5





The bill will also require that the recommendations made by the Inspector General of Veterans Affairs regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs Information Security Program be fully implemented by January 1, 2007.

For those potentially affected, the VA has been sending out individual notification letters to veterans and their families. In addition, the VA has established a dedicated toll free telephone number (1-800-FED-INFO) for questions or concerns connected with this loss of data. You can also visit their website at www.firstgov.gov for updates. As always, you may also contact my office at 512-246-1600 for information.

CARTER APPLAUDS HOUSE ACTION TO INCREASE OIL PRODUCTION IN U.S. HOUSE PASSES BILL TO ALLOW FOR OIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION IN ANWR

I strongly supported legislation that will help ease the burden of high gas prices on Americans. The House passed HR 5429, the American-Made Energy and Good Jobs Act, which will allow for oil and gas exploration in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR).

This bill is another way I am working to help ease the burden of high energy prices on American taxpayers. I am proud to support efforts to reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil and gas. The development and exploration of ANWR would increase our nation's oil supply and help lower gas prices.

This bill requires all oil and natural gas produced in ANWR's northern Coastal Plain to stay in America. It also includes a limit on the total surface area covered by drilling and production facilities to 2,000 acres. Exploration in ANWR will be conducted under the most stringent environmental protection requirements ever applied to a federal energy project.

CARTER URGES GREATER DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS ALONG TEXAS BORDER

As a member of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, I was able to include language into the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill that will help ensure that appropriate funds are used to fight drug and weapon smuggling along the Texas-Mexico border. The bill includes \$40 million for "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE)" at the State Department for programs in Mexico to address and fight narcotics and terrorism.

Drug and weapon smuggling along the Texas-Mexico border is rampant and threatens the security of our nation. I am doing everything I can to see the Texas border protected from the dangers of drug smuggling. This language ensures that the State Department is holding Mexican authorities accountable for their efforts to cooperate with U.S. policies. The funding for this program will allow us to enhance our nation's security without hindering tourism and commerce.

The success of INCLE depends on the cooperation of other countries, such as Mexico. The INCLE program at the Department of State promotes reform and modernization within Mexico's criminal justice and security systems. Specifically, cooperative efforts to dismantle major trans-border drug trafficking groups include specialized training, upgrading computer equipment, and improving operational readiness of rapid response units.

MAY 25TH: WALL STREET JOURNAL AND WASHINGTON POST COVER CARTER'S VIEWS ON IMMIGRATION

"I told Karl to go home and talk to people in Texas," said Rep. John R. Carter, a Republican from the state. "People are very, very concerned and actually mad." He said none of the 20 lawmakers who spoke during the meeting was in favor of the Senate approach.

(May 25, 2006; A6: Immigration Bill Advances in Senate --- Decision to Cut Off Debate Comes on 73-25 Roll Call; Passage Is Expected Today; By Sarah Lueck)

Anticipating the clash with the House, White House political adviser Karl Rove met privately with House Republicans yesterday, urging them to move closer to the Senate position, which President Bush embraces. He got a cold reception, according to people who attended. In particular, they said, Rep. John Carter (R-Tex.) testily told Rove that he was underestimating Americans' hostility to the notion of "amnesty" for illegal immigrants, especially if there is not proof that tougher border measures are taking effect. Rep. Sue W. Kelly (R-N.Y.) also told Rove that the president's position was a tough sell in her district, the sources said.

(May 25, 2006; A3: Fragile Senate Coalition Set To Pass Bill on Immigration; By Charles Babington)



CARTER HONORS SERVICE MEMBERS ON MEMORIAL DAY

I have consistently supported our veterans and active military members. I am proud to have co-sponsored two pieces of legislation that were signed by the President on Memorial Day that honor and assist our brave service men and women and their family members.

On Memorial Day we honor and remember the brave soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who have selflessly contributed to the security and freedom of America and our people.

By signing the Respect for America's Fallen Heroes Act into law, the burial services of our fallen service members will finally be protected from protestors. The service men and women who give their lives in service to the nation deserve to be buried peacefully and with dignity.

The HERO Act ensures that our brave service men and women who are defending America overseas have the opportunity to fully participate in saving for retirement. I am pleased to see this injustice corrected so our soldiers can start saving now.

I was also pleased to support the Veterans' Housing Opportunity and Benefits Improvement Act, which will provide housing assistance to disabled veterans residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.

I also sit on the subcommittee that is responsible for H.R. 5385, the Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007. This bill provides a historic \$25 billion dollars for Veteran's medical services and increases funding by \$20 million for facility improvements in existing veterans' homes.

God bless our nation and our military!

*For information on the brave men and women serving our country, visit:
<http://www.americasupportsyou.mil/americasupportsyou/index.aspx>*

CARTER FIGHTS FOR CONTINUATION OF TARLETON STATE PROGRAM HOUSE PASSES AGRICULTURE SPENDING BILL

As the House considered the Agriculture Appropriations bill, I was successful in inserting language that will allow Tarleton State University to continue to fight waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal crop insurance program.

The amendment I introduced is an important first step in seeing the continuation of Tarleton State's successful waste, fraud, and abuse program. Although we still have hurdles to overcome, I will continue to fight to secure the resources needed to continue one of the most effective oversight programs in the federal government. Tarleton State's program has already saved the American taxpayers \$450 million and I am determined to see them continue their invaluable work.

House passage of the Fiscal Year 2007 Agriculture Appropriations bill will provide support to farmers and ranchers throughout our country and will provide funding for a number of important nutrition and public health research programs.

Congressman Carter continued, "Farmers and ranchers are invaluable to our nation's economy. I am proud to have supported our nation's farmers and ranchers by passing this important legislation. This bill also provides financial support for critical food and nutrition programs, like the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)."

COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

Congressman Carter's *staff* will hold community office hours at the following time and location. The staff will be able to meet with residents to listen to their concerns and provide assistance with regard to federal issues and federal agencies.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2006

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

SALADO

Salado Community Center

601 North Main Street

Salado, Texas



Kids' Page

G	P	O	A	C	C	E	S	S	P	F	S	V	L	E	E	C	P
W	R	I	T	E	Y	O	I	U	I	E	I	L	N	S	Y	A	I
M	A	R	K	U	P	G	B	L	N	C	A	R	U	G	T	U	H
P	U	R	C	O	N	L	I	A	E	C	O	O	N	N	I	C	W
G	U	R	E	A	I	B	T	P	L	L	H	I	S	S	R	U	P
E	R	B	T	C	U	O	R	L	L	E	R	S	R	O	O	S	E
N	M	U	L	S	R	E	O	E	H	A	M	E	E	M	J	E	E
D	R	A	T	I	S	R	D	T	E	L	S	R	K	G	A	S	T
E	W	E	A	I	C	M	F	H	L	L	I	B	A	D	M	M	T
D	R	R	D	H	U	O	T	N	E	D	I	S	E	R	P	D	I
I	Q	E	N	R	K	N	P	T	J	Q	V	R	P	S	O	O	M
S	N	U	O	R	H	D	U	I	I	O	R	T	S	A	T	U	M
T	B	U	E	V	I	T	A	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	E	R	O
R	Q	L	E	T	A	B	E	D	F	I	R	T	S	O	V	X	C
I	C	R	W	T	Z	E	U	E	H	W	O	A	V	U	P	K	U
C	N	V	S	L	A	N	R	U	O	J	W	N	J	O	O	E	S
T	C	A	P	I	T	O	L	H	O	P	P	E	R	I	T	H	R
C	O	N	F	E	R	E	N	C	E	C	T	S	V	V	M	E	D

POLITICAL WORD SEARCH

Assembly
Congress
House
Quorum
Ballot
Delegate
Legislation
Regulation
Bill
Democracy
Legislature
Representative
Campaign
Democrat
Majority
Republican

Capitol
District
Minority
Senate
Caucus
Election
Precinct
Speaker
Chamber
Filibuster
President
Veto
Committee
Governor
Politics
Vote



Color the President



Warren Harding

Presidential Number: 29th

Years he was President: 1921-1923

State Represented: Ohio

Party Affiliation: Republican

Fact(s): He had gray hair. He died with a heart attack while president.

Personal

Birthday: November 2, 1865

How old would he be this year? 141

School(s) attended: Ohio Central College

Wife: Florence Harding

Occupation(s) before he was President: Insurance

Salesman, reporter, newspaper publisher

Other way(s) he served: US Senator

Height: 6 feet

Hobbies or Sports: Golf, horseback riding

Pets: Dog, an Airedale named Laddie Boy

Life in America

How would he have traveled? Car

How would he have communicated with his friends?

Telephone, typed letter, telegram

U.S. Population when term began: 105,710,620

Number of stars on flag when he left office: 48